

Claims

- 1 1. A venous cannula comprising:
 - 2 an elongated flexible body member having a tubular wall defining a bore
 - 3 therein and having an intake end and a discharge end;
 - 4 a tip portion formed at said intake end and having a plurality of openings
 - 5 formed in said wall;
 - 6 a rigid helical support element embedded in said tubular wall and
 - 7 extending from said discharge end of said elongated body member to said tip portion; and
 - 8 a cage member fixed to the exterior of said end portion having a plurality
 - 9 of longitudinally stringers and a plurality of annular rings attached to stringers, said cage
 - 10 being disposed so that all of said intake apertures are covered by said cage member and
 - 11 remain open to the flow of blood.
- 1 2. The venous cannula of claim 1 wherein said rings and said stringers are of
- 2 relatively stiff materials.
- 1 3. The venous cannula of claim 1 wherein said stringers are on the outer surface
- 2 of said tip portion.
- 1 4. The venous cannula of claim 1 wherein said stringers and said rings are in a common
- 2 cylindrical plane.
- 1 5. The venous cannula of claim 1 wherein said stringers are on the outer surface of said
- 2 rings except said rings at the opposite ends of said cage, said stringers and said rings at
- 3 opposite ends of said cage being in a common cylindrical plane.

1 6. The venous cannula of claim 1 wherein additional set of apertures is formed in
2 spaced relation to said tip portion and wherein an additional cage member is disposed to
3 cover said second set of radial openings.

1 7. The venous cannula of claim 6 wherein claim 6 wherein said stringers of said
2 additional cage members are on the outer surface of said tubular wall.

1 8. The venous cannula of claim 6 wherein said rings and stringers of said
2 additional cage members are of relatively stiff materials.

1 9. The venous cannula of claim 6 wherein said stringers and said rings are in a
2 common cylindrical plane.

3 10. The venous cannula of claim 6 wherein the stringers of said additional cage
4 members has its stringers on the outer surface of said rings except said rings at opposite
5 ends of said additional cage members.